

# RFEI QUESTION TRACKER

March 11, 2011

Number	Date Received	Issue/Question	Response
1	2/9/2011	There appears to be no provision for inclusion and/or utilization of small, disadvantaged or disabled veteran business enterprise. (1)What is the policy for such inclusion? (2)What are the goals and objectives? (3) What expectations are there for the design-build teams to have diversity/inclusion? (4)Are there any procedures/requirements for the RFEI phase? (5) Are there forms for submission or consideration by the evaluation committee? (6)How will significant/meaningful participation be viewed in the evaluation process? (7)Is it the Agency's desire/policy to exclude diversity matters from this phase of the procurement process?	The Authority does have small business and disabled veterans business enterprise goals (25 percent goal for certified small businesses and a 3 percent requirement for DVBE). Additionally, the Authority is developing an outreach plan to small businesses, which will include aggressive outreach to minority-owned and disadvantaged business enterprises. Your input is valuable as we develop that outreach plan. The most recent report to the Authority Board on this topic can be downloaded at: <a href="http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=9606">http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=9606</a>
2	2/10/2011	I have read the RFEI and find no statement about Conflict of Interest, or comments related to firms/individuals currently contracted by CHSRA. Are such firms encouraged to submit responses, or are the precluded from the RFEI process?	"All interested persons and/or entities are encouraged to submit Expressions of Interest (EOIs) in response to the RFEI. The RFEI is not a procurement document and should not be construed as such. Receipt by the Authority of an EOI does not reflect any determination by the Authority that the sender is qualified to bid under applicable conflict of interest laws. It is anticipated that a more definitive Conflict of Interest statement will be included in any subsequent procurement documents that may be issued by the Authority."
3	2/10/2011	Please let us know if you will be requiring the services in the area of Public Outreach? <b>Certified SB.</b>	The Authority currently contracts for public outreach services within the environmental review and preliminary engineering phase. Public outreach will certainly be an ongoing need for the project. It is undetermined at this time whether public outreach will specifically be a part of the procurement for the initial construction. Your input on this subject would be valuable.
4	2/10/2011	Why did the HSR route change to go through Hanford instead of Visalia?	In 2005, the Authority issued its final statewide EIR/EIS, which identified following the BNSF alignment as the preferred route between Fresno and Bakersfield with no potential station between Fresno and Bakersfield. This route was selected because it would have fewer community impacts on Fowler, Selma and Kingsburg than following the UPRR alignment. Visalia and Tulare could only be directly served by following the UPRR alignment. In 2005, the Authority also said that it would undertake a subsequent alignment study that would also potentially identify a station to serve Visalia, Tulare and Hanford area. This study was completed in 2007 and identified several alignment and station alternatives. These alignment and station site alternatives have been included in preparation of a project-level EIR/EIS, which is now ongoing. Detailed information about the Visalia, Tulare, Hanford Station Feasibility Study and the Authority's current environmental work is available on the Authority's website at <a href="http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/Lib/Fresno+Bakersfield.aspx">http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/Lib/Fresno+Bakersfield.aspx</a>
5	2/11/2011	Is there a database file for the attached PDFs?	
6	2/11/2011	Can you provide a list of interest companies ?	The list of respondents to the RFEI will be posted at the Authority's Web site ( <a href="http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov">www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov</a> ) following the March 16 deadline.
7	2/11/2011	I am interested in discussing the possibility of establishing a workforce training agreement between CHSRA and the Calif. Comm. Colleges? Please let me know of your availability and interest to discuss this further.	California State University and the Mineta Transportation Institute are currently conducting a "needs assessment" study regarding high-speed rail workforce development. Their findings are scheduled to be published later this year.
8	2/11/2011	Can you tell me where the application is located?	There is no formal application document. In order to express your interest in participating in the development of a high-speed train system, a standard letter containing your contact information and company's function would be sufficient at this stage.

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9	2/15/2011	AS Systems technology suppliers working on a number of core systems we cannot really reply to many of the questions. How should we respond to this RFEI? 2/28/11 Due date for the RFEI is approaching fast and I would appreciate some guidance of how we should respond.	We are looking for any industry input that may help us better define and develop our RFQ and RFP efforts. Feel free to respond to any and all areas. All constructive comments are welcomed.
10	2/16/2011	(1) For the 120miles of ICS is supply of electricity (Power supply, OCS, etc.) include? (2)Please clarify detail of basic signaling system (Pos. Train control) whether such system will be the same as that to be used in Phase-1?	The supply of electricity is not included. Phases 1-2 will have a common system, but it is not part of this effort.
11	2/16/2011	(1) Would you confirm how the same section of track (Fresno to Shafter or Bakersfield) appears to be in both sections (2.1 and 2.2) i.e. the ICS and also within the Phase-1 Program Section. (2)In reviewing the RFEI, I wondered if there was any scope for the ICS to be considered as a DBFOM or whether the procurement strategy of Deign-build was already decided?	(1) This section will be designed and constructed in two parts as follows: The initial ARRA funded section will design and build the infrastructure only with the entire section being completed as part of the Phase 1 efforts. (2) Nothing is ruled out at this time; your input and suggestions are welcome.
12	2/16/2011	Is there anyway to receive information on who downloaded or who is interested in the RFEI? I am hoping you have a plan holder's list you can share	The list of respondents to the RFEI will be posted at the Authority's Web site ( <a href="http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov">www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov</a> ) following the March 16 deadline.
13	2/23/2011	Requesting detailed RFQ and RFP information.	These documents are currently under development and have not been released. We recommend that you continue to monitor the California High-Speed Rail Authority website for updates regarding the status off our procurement document development efforts. Additionally, those who submit an Expression of Interest will be added to a database for the purpose of disseminating information about the latter stages of the procurement process as those documents are developed.
14	2/24/2011	How may I obtain contact information for those who will be invited to attend the April 4th event after the EOPI responses are received?	The time, location and date of the EOI event will be posted on the California High-Speed Rail Authority website. We expect to post the attendance list online.
15	2/24/2011	The attached solicitation appears to be targeted to D-B firms to respond to. (1) How should our firm, a Fresno-based structural engineering design firm respond in an effort to express our interest? (2) Will the Authority be publishing a list of firms that responded to this solicitation?	To Question 1) The RFEI is targeted to all firms. The Authority has not yet determined how the procurement will be organized, including having not yet determined if design-build will be the preferred procurement model. Your input on this topic is valuable. To Question 2) The list of respondents to the RFEI will be posted to the Authority's Web site following the March 16 deadline.
16	2/24/2011	Can you please detail how I would get on the active bidders list?	Responding to this RFEI will put you in a database to receive information about and through the RFQ and RFP processes. It is through those latter stages of procurement that we will develop an active bidders list.
17	2/25/2011	I am interested in becoming a "Respondent" and participating in the CHSR Authority's Expression of interest. It is however not understood whether authorization is required to be a Respondent. Please advise, thank you ...	We welcome all comments; there is no authorization required to provide responses to the RFEI.
18	2/25/2011	Please advise whether a submittal highlighting Structural engineering design experience coupled with SBE Certification would be appropriate at this time to go on record as a firm interested in future design contracts.	We welcome all comments and responses to the RFEI and welcome all interested parties to respond. If you choose to submit additional information, we will consider it and enter it into our master list of interested firms.
19	2/27/2011	I wish to verify if tunnels (mined or covered) will be need on this section?	For the initial ARRA-funded section there may the opportunity for short tunnel sections if it is decided to go under state highway and freight railroads. Per the RFEI there will be major tunneling efforts on the other sections. Specific tunnel construction methods and cross-sections have not been established at this time.
20	2/28/2011	The e-mail received appears to only address construction and not professional services. We are Right-of-Way and Community Outreach consultants. When will your agency have EOI's for professional services?	The intent of this RFEI is to collect expressions of interest from those interested in all phases of the high-speed train project's development from today through operations. The Authority will continue to need professional services and put some professional services out to bid outside of the process of procurement for the initial construction segment.
21	3/1/2011	In your RFEI document, Figure B1 which illustrates the work elements associated with ICS is very unclear to figure out each character. It would be appreciated if you could provide me with clear figure.	Requested Figure B-1 sent.

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22	3/1/2011	Will there be a process for the solicitation/incorporation of DBE firms as sub consultants in the procurement process for the HSR project	The Authority does have small business and disabled veterans business enterprise goals (25 percent goal for certified small businesses and a 3 percent requirement for DVBE). Additionally, the Authority is developing an outreach plan to small businesses, which will include aggressive outreach to minority-owned and disadvantaged business enterprises. Your input is valuable as we develop that outreach plan. The most recent report to the Authority Board on this topic can be downloaded at: <a href="http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=9606">http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=9606</a>
23	3/2/2011	Regarding the follow-up industry forum to take place in Los Angeles April 12 as you mentioned, we would like to learn more about it in order to make early preparation, such as: (1) focus and topic under discussion of the forum (2) format/style of the forum (3) requirements of the forum, such as time and method to inform participants, detailed requirements for participants and enrollment to you once again.	The details of the April 12 event, including agenda, etc., will be finalized and published shortly after March 16.
24	3/2/2011	I am writing as to the process of getting bidding information for participation in the different phases of this project.	Responding to this RFEI will put you in a database to receive information about and through the RFQ and RFP processes. It is through those latter stages of procurement that we will develop an active bidders list.
25	3/3/2011	Is California soliciting help/input from small businesses on a nationwide basis or just from firms in California?	The Authority is interested in expressions of interest from all interested parties. The Authority's goal of 25 percent participation by small businesses is specific, however, to California state certified small businesses, and therefore a small business from elsewhere in the United States may seek California certification as such.
26	3/4/2011	I have read all 44 pages of the RFEI however there is not where for me to respond or to look into what we can offer in ways of service. Please advise	There is no formal application document. In order to express your interest in participating in the development of a high-speed train system, a standard letter containing your contact information and company's function would be sufficient at this stage.
27	3/4/2011	I want to send in my letter for request for Expression of Interest, what information are you looking for? The service my company can provide? Do I submit my company insurance at this time? What is the address I would send my information?	We are currently developing our RFQ and RFP documents and we are seeking industry input in helping us formulate the most advantage approach to our procurement efforts. Your ideas and recommendation are most welcome.
28	3/4/2011	where can I find the RFEI	The RFEI is found on the HSR Authority's web site, <a href="http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/rfei.aspx">www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/rfei.aspx</a> or you may contact your local AGC
29	3/4/2011	Please let me know how I can respond so I can be considered for this project.	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
30	3/7/2011	Is there a form we can submit for our EOI?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
31	3/7/2011	We reviewed the PDF file provided, we were unable to find a form for anything that we need to complete.	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
32	3/7/2011	We have a question on section 4.2.g.3. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of increasing the SB percentage above the statutory 25% goal and the DVBE above 3% goal. (1) We question whether the 25% is in error and whether it should be 5%, which is the SB percentage we customarily find on all procurements in California. (2) We'd appreciate an answer at the Authority's earliest convenience and would like to know whether the answer will be the subject of an Addendum?	Per Governor's Executive Order (Schwarzenegger), state agencies using infrastructure general obligation bond dollars are to set a goal of obtaining 25 percent participation by small businesses. Per the Executive Order, this is a goal, rather than a quota.

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33	3/8/2011	In reading the RFEI, it seems that contractors are the appropriate "Respondents" to the RFEI. Am i correct? Or do we need to submit a RFEI if we are interested in pursuing the projects or portions thereof as an engineering partner to a D/B.	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
34	3/8/2011	We are more of the maintenance part 2.2. to be considered for this part, do we need to be involved in the Phase1 aspect or do I need to do something to label us for what we are?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
35	3/8/2011	We are having difficulty downloading the pdf file on the website. Is it possible to send us a copy of this file	Document sent.
36	3/8/2011	Our primary connection to rail and other transit projects is at the EIR phase (and secondarily when fiscal impacts are examined). It is my understanding that the EIR work is being conducted now, so it is too late for us to express interest? Could you confirm this understanding?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
37	3/9/2011	Can you suggest what would be the best approach for us to submit the EOI, where we can have opportunity to team up with prime contractor?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
38	3/9/2011	Do we need to do anything further? Is there another application or form to fill out/	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
39	3/9/2011	Will the RFEI require us to send additional information about our firm including resume, firm qualifications, past projects, etc.?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
40	3/9/2011	Who do I need to contact to help me with this announcement to potential bidders	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
41	3/9/2011	It would probably be appropriate for us to be a subcontractor to a larger firm, Can you recommend how we might do that?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
42	3/9/2011	Am I required as a supplier of materials to complete the RFEI? If I do not complete the RFEI will I still be able to participate in future opportunities as a supplier?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
43	3/9/2011	I am classified as a SBE type and do not fall under disabled or disadvantaged. Would I still be eligible to bid on upcoming projects and the product needed for there completion?	Yes

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44	3/10/2011	(1)Will there be the opportunity for us to introduce ourselves to principal bidders or selected design/build firms? (2) will it be acceptable to submit a shorter version of the EOI highlighting our abilities and experience?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database. Yes, any length expression is acceptable.
45	3/10/2011	(1) Are the services noted on page 4 of RFEI (section 1.1a and b) requesting for both construction and technical/business services?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database. Yes, all services are acceptable.
46	3/10/2011	We'd like to express our interest in participating in this project - what is the best way to proceed?	We are currently soliciting comments industry wide to help us in the development of our procurement documents. Your comments and suggestion are welcome and may be sent to the email address identified in the RFEI (there are no forms to be completed at this time). Also, your firm's name has been recorded as being interested and added to our database.
47	3/10/2011	Was there to be a questionnaire as part of the RFEI?	Please refer to section 4.1 through 4.3 of the RFEI